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To: Mr. [REDACTED] November 4, 1959
Chairman, Committee on Procurement
of Foreign Publications, USIB

Assignment

"The Chairman asked that the Non-USIB agencies (National Science Foundation, Library of Congress, Department of Agriculture, National Library of Medicine and the United States Information Agency) prepare a statement on what support these agencies would expect from procurement operations under war-time circumstances, to include before the immediate declaration of war, during a war, and post-war. He asked that the Library of Congress member be Chairman of this Working Group, to consist of the members from the agencies mentioned."

(From Secret minutes of the Special Meeting, 6 October 1959 of the Committee on Procurement of Foreign Publications, USIB)

Assumptions

The Working Group recognizes that assumptions concerning future conditions must be made if it is to arrive at conclusions regarding the types of support which the institutions it represents would require during the three periods suggested by the Chairman of PROCIB; yet it is the consensus of the Group that its primary assumption must be that the next war will be cataclysmic completely destroying its institutions in their present locations.

If the Group assumes unrealistically that its institutions will remain in their present locations or if it assumes that they will have been effectively relocated under conditions which will permit service to the Federal community and to research generally then it suggests several types of support which would be required from whatever Federal publications center may be authorized to control the procurement and distribution of publications and from the military, since it assumes that the military will control certain basic services.

It is the view of the Group that the support suggested would be required during an officially declared emergency, during the war and during the period following the war until normal channels and services were reestablished.

Support required

1. From the Federal publications center

- a. At least one copy of each publication procured, regardless of subject field, for deposit in a War Agencies Collection to be established by the Library of Congress (either centralized or decentralized) for the primary use of the Federal community engaged in research for the war effort.

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- b. A copy of each medical publication procured to be deposited in the National Library of Medicine.
- c. A copy of each agricultural publication procured to be deposited in the Department of Agriculture Library.
- d. A copy of each publication procured in the informational fields assigned to the United Information Agency for special research or other activity, to be deposited in that Agency's Library.
- e. The purposes of the National Science Foundation will be satisfied by effective implementation of paragraphs 1 a-c, above.
- f. Use of the center's foreign based personnel in procuring priority materials required by all five institutions.

2. From the Military

- a. Communications services
- b. Transportation services
- c. Foreign publications storage facilities
- d. Housing and subsistence for representatives of the five institutions on foreign assignments in areas under U. S. or allied control.

Statement prepared by following Working Group:

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National Science Foundation

Foster E. Mohrhardt
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U. S. Information Agency Library

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[Initials of Working Group members appear on draft
of this statement held at the Library of Congress]

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